



# The Pipeline

## 'Rising Star' in Policy Development

By Mike Jennings, CFC Communications

Mike Weinrauch, a policy analyst for the Cabinet's Division of Policy Development, has been named a "rising star" by the Lexington Young Professionals Association. He is one of 31 Lexington area residents recognized by the association for their leadership, innovation, achievement and community involvement.



Weinrauch, 31, received a master of social work degree from the University of Kentucky in 1996 and joined the Cabinet the following year as a social worker in Bourbon County. He has also worked as an adoption social worker in Fayette County, a rapid response worker in the Bluegrass Rural region and program coordinator for Jefferson County's Community Partnership for Protecting Children.

Last April, Weinrauch joined DPD at Quality Central as a specialist in Protection and Permanency regulations and policies.

A Brookline, Mass., native, Weinrauch earned an undergraduate degree in psychology and sociology at the University of Vermont.

In a story on the "rising star" honorees in its Feb. 27 issue, Ace Weekly reported that Weinrauch said his dream job was to play second base for the Legends, Lexington's minor league baseball team.

"Since I never made it past JV baseball and was probably the worst hitter in the history of my high school, I'll just stick to social work," he said.

## Research symposium registration forms due Tuesday

By Anya Armes Weber, CFC Communications

The registration deadline for the 2003 research symposium is Tuesday, April 1.



The second annual symposium will be April 8 at Frankfort's Holiday Inn Capital Plaza at 405 Wilkinson Blvd. The theme of the event is "Helping Kentucky's Diverse Families Work: Research to Practice Partnerships." Many of the Cabinet's Comprehensive Family Services partners will attend or present studies.

The conference will have two tracks concentrating on Family Support and Protection and Permanency issues.

During lunch, awards will be presented and a video spotlighting last year's symposium will be screened. Keynote speaker Dr. Fred Wulczyn of the University of Chicago will discuss research and decision making and discuss national examples.

A preconference institute will begin at 1 p.m. on April 7. Dr. Jim Clark from the University of Kentucky's Comprehensive Assessment and Training Services (CATS) will talk about using evidence-based approaches in child-welfare cases.

Cost for the symposium events are as follows: \$30 for the full day April 8 (including lunch), \$20 for the half-day preconference institute April 7. Continuing education credits are available for an extra \$5.

Attendance is limited to the first 200 registrants. Log onto <http://www.trc.eku.edu/cwr/Sympos2003.htm> for a schedule and registration form.

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## March of Dimes team plans housewares sale, soup luncheon

By Anya Armes Weber, CFC  
Communications

The March of Dimes fund-raising committee continues its efforts to reduce premature births with several upcoming activities.

The team will be selling Home Interiors candles and housewares, plush toys and Cabinet T-shirts in the CHR lobby Friday, March 28. The white, short-sleeved, 100 percent cotton tees are \$10 for sizes S, M, L and XL; \$11 for XXL; and \$12 for XXXL.

Your purchase will support healthy babies!

### Soup luncheon next Tuesday

The chili cookoff was such a success, the March of Dimes fund-raising committee is planning another luncheon from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. next Tuesday, April 1, outside the Secretary's Office on the fourth-floor of the CHR building.

Staff can get soup, cornbread and a dessert for \$3. There will also be a silent auction for desserts and a raffle for those who donate food items.

If you'd like to donate a dish, please call Michele Lilly at 564-3140, ext. 4004, or e-mail her at [michele.lilly@mail.state.ky.us](mailto:michele.lilly@mail.state.ky.us).

### Pledge forms available for walk

The March of Dimes State Walk for Kentucky employees is at 11:30 a.m. Friday, April 11. Get your pledge sheets from your office's coordinator.

Staff who raise \$20 will get a Cabinet March of Dimes shirt. Walkers who raise \$100 will receive a WalkAmerica T-shirt, and those who collect \$250 in pledges will earn a WalkAmerica sweatshirt. There are bigger incentives for raising more funds.

If you can't walk, please consider sponsoring someone who will.

### Yard sale items needed

After your spring cleaning, don't forget to bring in your housewares for the March of Dimes yard sale April 2 and 3. If you have items other than clothing to donate, contact Lilly.

## Flex account deadline is Monday

By Anya Armes Weber, CFC  
Communications

Monday, March 31, is the deadline for contributors to claim year 2002 flexible spending account funds.

Request forms, receipts and appeals for last year's services must be received or postmarked by that date.

Call (800) 413-6706 to reach account administrator Stanley, Hunt, Dupree and Rhine and check your balances and claims. You must enter your Social Security number to get information. If you need to speak with an administrator, call (800) 403-2839.

Verify your account information online at <https://www.online-enrollment.com/HDR/Login.asp>.

## QCC offering UK buttons

By Anya Armes Weber, CFC  
Communications

The University of Kentucky Wildcats have made it to the NCAA tournament's Elite Eight on Saturday in Minneapolis.

You can show your team spirit with a "Go Cats!" button and support Quality Central Connections with a \$1 donation to the group.

QCC team members will be in the CHR lobby on Friday, March 28. Stop by and pick up a button to support the Cats.

QCC strengthens employee communication through activities like the employee appreciation picnic and



Secretary Viola Miller's quarterly "CFC Connections" sessions.

Learn more about QCC on the Cabinet intranet at [http://cfcnet.ky.gov/Special\\_Projects/qcc/index\\_qcc.asp](http://cfcnet.ky.gov/Special_Projects/qcc/index_qcc.asp).

## QCC to collect items for seniors

By Anya Armes Weber, CFC  
Communications

Next month, Quality Central Connections (QCC) will begin a collection drive for items that senior citizens may enjoy.

The drive, called Saluting Our Seniors, will serve residents of area nursing and retirement homes. Facility staff will distribute the items to residents.

QCC is requesting items that would give seniors comfort or practical use, like greeting cards, large-piece puzzles, house slippers and new blankets or afghans.

Items will be collected throughout April and distributed in May, which is Older Americans Awareness Month.

Check upcoming editions of the Pipeline for more information about Saluting Our Seniors, including a complete donation list and dropoff locations.

## Assets Management Branch in need of office equipment

The Assets Management Branch is in need of any four- or five-drawer, locking file cabinets, small computer tables, and "locking times two" cabinets. If you need to get rid of any of these items, please contact the Assets Management Branch at (502) 564-9363 or email [walter.wright@mail.state.ky.us](mailto:walter.wright@mail.state.ky.us)

## Sick Leave Need

Paula Yochum, Division of Personnel, is in immediate need of donated sick leave. To donate leave time, call Zenda Jones at 564-7770.

## Groups collecting teddy bears, crayons for foster kids



(Above) Residents of Frankfort's Ashwood Place, an independent living home for seniors, collected about 50 bears for the Key Club and Administrative Office of the Courts' teddy bear and crayon drive. The bears will be given to the state's foster children during April, which is Child Abuse Prevention Month.

By Anya Armes Weber, CFC Communications

Two community partners are helping children in state-certified foster homes feel a little more loved, and staff can pitch in, too.

The Kentucky and Tennessee Key Club International and the Administrative Office of the Courts have launched a teddy bear and crayon drive with the goal of collecting at least 1,000 new bears by the end of the month.

Christie Mitchell is a Franklin County High School junior and governor of the Kentucky and Tennessee Key Club International. She said the two-state group wanted to do a service project that would help abused, neglected and dependent children who have been removed from their homes and placed in foster care.

"Every child needs love," she said. "A teddy bear or crayons are a distraction for kids" who have suffered. "Those are the things I liked to play with as a child. No matter what, a bear would be your best friend to give you comfort."

AOC field coordinators will distribute the bears collected in Kentucky to Family Courts and local Department for Community Based Services offices

during April, which is Child Abuse Prevention Month, said Patrick Yewell, general manager of the AOC's Dependent Children's Services Division.

With help from AOC, Christie Mitchell, a Franklin County High School junior and governor of the Kentucky and Tennessee Key Club International, came up with the idea as a service project for the two-state group.

Foster care specialist Martha Vozos said the drive is "a great idea.

"It's been done before through various organizations, but it's always well received and a big success," she said. "We always need more bears, unfortunately."

Christie said 47 Key Clubs in Kentucky and more in Tennessee began collecting the bears March 1.

A news release from the AOC announcing the drive garnered several donations. And DCBS offices, businesses and other groups are collecting, too, Yewell said.

Residents at one Frankfort retirement home, Ashwood Place, donated about 50 new bears and presented them to Yewell at a ceremony Wednesday

The Kentucky drive will probably net at least 3,000 bears, Yewell said.

The drive ends Monday, March 31. To donate a bear, call Christie at (502) 695-5544 or Billy Stover at the AOC at (502) 573-2350 or (800) 928-2350. Or take your new teddy bears to Franklin County High School, 1100 E. Main St.

## EAL Bright Idea of the Week

By Anya Armes Weber, CFC Communications

While most Cabinet staff have completed the Everyone a Leader skill-building sessions, we could all use small



reminders of the lessons we studied. The "EAL Bright Idea of the Week" features tips that can help us improve our relationships with coworkers and our service to families.

Be aware of the stereotypes you hear. Sometimes a stereotype has been around for so long, we may not be aware that it's hurting someone. Even jokes can damage relationships. Steer clear of talk that could be oppressive.



## Child Support holds chili luncheon for March of Dimes, raffle and photo contest to come

The Division of Child Support (DCS) enjoyed some wonderful chili, pimiento cheese and peanut butter sandwiches, and desserts on March 19 and 20.

There were six pots of chili and the winner was Janice Burch, as judged by Andrea Rood, Interstate Section, Kem McWhorter, Policy and Procedures Section, and Ray Athey, State Parent Locator Section.

During lunch, staff played bingo to win cool stuff, or purchased a chance to win wonderful gift baskets in a raffle.

The Division's coordinator, Dianne Darnell, has also organized a baby photo contest (photo above). Several staff members have submitted their pictures and the board has become a gathering point for those trying to put names to those sweet baby faces.

The raffle and baby photo contest continue through April 4. DCS has a running total of \$401 raised for the March of Dimes.